

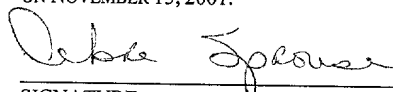
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| In re Application of: | § | |
| Alvin C. Allen, Jr. | § | Group Art No. Unassigned |
| | § | |
| Serial No.: Unassigned | § | Examiner: Unassigned |
| | § | |
| Filed: December 7, 1998 | § | Atty Docket No.: 069131.0114 |
| | § | |
| For: TRIGGERABLE REMOTE CONTROLLER | § | |

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully submits this Preliminary Amendment and requests that it be entered into the file wrapper of the instant application before substantive examination thereof.

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Please insert the following sentence at the beginning of the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 of the specification as originally filed:

-- This is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/206,627 --

In the Claims:

Prior to computing the fees, please cancel claims 2-18, 20-25 and 27-33, and add claims 34-36. Please enter the following replacement claims, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c), each replacement claim replacing the correspondingly numbered prior pending claim. For the convenience of the examiner, a clean copy of all pending claims, after the cancellation and addition of claims described above is reproduced below. Following these claims and applicant's remarks, applicant provides a marked-up version of the claims having amendments made thereto.

Please amend the claims as indicated:

1. A triggerable location-reporting apparatus for use in an environment including:
a source of Global Positioning Satellite System (GPS) signals; a source of a trigger signal; a cellular base station connected through a network to a gateway; the cellular base station being configured to expect a Reverse Control Channel signal including a Mobile Identification Number and an Electronic Serial Number, the triggerable location-reporting apparatus comprising:

- a GPS receiver responsive to the GPS signals for producing GPS data when enabled;
- a data selector for selecting less than all of the GPS data, to produce selected GPS data;
- a cellular network transmitter coupled to the data selector for formatting and transmitting, when enabled, a Reverse Control Channel signal including the selected GPS data in the place normally occupied by the Electronic Serial Number and a Mobile Identification Number that will cause the cellular base station to send a Registration Notification Invoke signal including the selected GPS data to the gateway;
- a trigger signal receiver responsive to the trigger signal for producing an enable signal;
- an enable controller coupled to the GPS receiver, the cellular network transmitter, and the trigger signal receiver;
- the enable controller being configured to enable the GPS receiver and the cellular network transmitter upon receipt of the enable signal from the trigger signal receiver; and
- the enable controller being configured to disable the GPS receiver and the cellular network transmitter.

19. A method for reporting a location for an object in an environment including: a source of Global Positioning Satellite System (GPS) signals; a source of a trigger; a cellular base station connected through a network to a gateway; the cellular base station being configured to expect a Reverse Control Channel signal including a Mobile Identification Number and an Electronic Serial Number, the method comprising:

receiving a trigger;
enabling, in response to the trigger, a GPS receiver responsive to the GPS signals to produce GPS data;
selecting less than all of the GPS data to produce selected GPS data;
enabling, in response to the trigger, a cellular network transmitter to format and transmit a Reverse Control Channel signal including the selected GPS data in the place normally occupied by the Electronic Serial Number and a Mobile Identification Number that will cause the cellular base station to send a Registration Notification Invoke signal including the selected GPS data to the gateway; and
disabling the GPS receiver and the cellular network transmitter.

26. A triggerable location-reporting apparatus comprising
a location-signal generating device configured to produce a location signal including location data when enabled;
a data selecting device for selecting less than all of the location data to include in the location signal;
a telemetry transmitter coupled to the data selecting device configured to transmit the location signal when enabled; and
an enable controller configured to enable the location-signal generating device and the telemetry transmitter when it receives a trigger signal and to disable the location-signal generating device and the telemetry transmitter after the telemetry transmitter transmits the location signal.

34. The triggerable location-reporting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data selector reorders the selected GPS data.

35. The method of claim 19 further comprising reordering the selected GPS data.

34. The triggerable location-reporting apparatus of claim 26 wherein the data selecting device reorders the selected GPS data.

34. The triggerable location-reporting apparatus of claim 26 wherein the data selecting device reorders the selected GPS data.

REMARKS

This is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/206,627. Claims 2-18, 20-25 and 27-33 have been cancelled. Claims 34-36 have been added and are supported by the specification.

Claims 1, 19, 26, and 34-36 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone or facsimile.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Version of Specification Paragraph Beginning on Page 1, Line 5 of the Specification as
Originally Filed With Markings to Show Changes Made:**

This is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/206,627.

This invention relates generally to location reporting apparatus and methods. More particularly, this invention relates to location reporting apparatus and methods that use the Global Positioning Satellite System (“GPS”) to ascertain an object’s location. Even more particularly, this invention relates to location reporting apparatus and methods that are triggerable and that report their location derived from GPS signals, via telemetry.

continued on next page

Version of Pending Claims With Markings
to Show Changes Made to the Prior Pending Claims:

1. (amended) A triggerable location-reporting apparatus for use in an environment including: a source of Global Positioning Satellite System (GPS) signals; a source of a trigger signal; a cellular base station connected through a network to a gateway; the cellular base station being configured to expect a Reverse Control Channel signal including a Mobile Identification Number and an Electronic Serial Number, the triggerable location-reporting apparatus comprising:

[a trigger signal;]

a GPS receiver responsive to the GPS signals for producing GPS data when enabled [processor coupled to the trigger signal];

[a position signal carrying position information generated by the GPS processor in response to the trigger signal;]

a data selector for selecting less than all of the GPS data to produce selected GPS data;

a [telemetry] cellular network transmitter coupled to the [position signal] data selector for formatting and transmitting, when enabled, a Reverse Control Channel signal including the selected GPS data in the place normally occupied by the Electronic Serial Number and a Mobile Identification Number that will cause the cellular base station to send a Registration Notification Invoke signal including the selected GPS data to the gateway;

[a telemetry transmit signal transmitted by the telemetry transmitter, the telemetry transmit signal carrying the position information.]

a trigger signal receiver responsive to the trigger signal for producing an enable signal;

an enable controller coupled to the GPS receiver, the cellular network transmitter, and the trigger signal receiver;

the enable controller being configured to enable the GPS receiver and the cellular network transmitter upon receipt of the enable signal from the trigger signal receiver; and

the enable controller being configured to disable the GPS receiver and the cellular network transmitter.

19. (amended) A method for reporting a location for an object in an environment including: a source of Global Positioning Satellite System (GPS) signals; a source of a trigger; a cellular base station connected through a network to a gateway; the cellular base station being configured to expect a Reverse Control Channel signal including a Mobile Identification Number and an Electronic Serial Number, the method comprising:

receiving a [page] trigger;

enabling, in response to the trigger, a GPS receiver responsive to the GPS signals to produce GPS data;

[determining, in response to the page, the location of the object using GPS signals;]

selecting less than all of the GPS data to produce selected GPS data;

enabling, in response to the trigger, a cellular network transmitter to format and transmit a Reverse Control Channel signal including the selected GPS data in the place normally occupied by the Electronic Serial Number and a Mobile Identification Number that will cause the cellular base station to send a Registration Notification Invoke signal including the selected GPS data to the gateway; and [transmitting the location of the object via telemetry.]
disabling the GPS receiver and the cellular network transmitter.

26. (amended) A triggerable location-reporting apparatus comprising
a location-signal generating device configured to produce a location signal including location data when enabled;
a data selecting device for selecting less than all of the location data to include in the location signal;
a telemetry transmitter coupled to the [location-signal generating] data selecting device configured to transmit the location signal when enabled; and
an enable controller configured to enable the location-signal generating device and the telemetry transmitter when it receives a trigger signal and to disable the location-signal generating device and the telemetry transmitter after the telemetry transmitter transmits the location signal.

34. (added) The triggerable location-reporting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data selector reorders the selected GPS data.

35. (added) The method of claim 19 further comprising reordering the selected GPS data.

34. (added) The triggerable location-reporting apparatus of claim 26 wherein the data selecting device reorders the selected GPS data.

Approved for release by NSA on 08-03-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526